GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:377
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
PROVIDING MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

the extent to which the implementation of the Supreme Court's directions for providing cooked meals in all Government and Government aided schools in the States/UTs has affected the enrolment in the schools?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

The orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court was passed on 28.11.2001 directing States/UTs to provide meal under the Mid-day Meal Scheme. It is, therefore, too early to assess its impact on enrolment. However, as per the evaluation undertaken in ten States by an independent agency called Operations Research Group, New Delhi covering 10 States, namely, Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, their report states that while the programme has given boost to enrolment in Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal; in six other States, it has positive impact on attendance and retention.

Besides, a study conducted by NCERT on State's Policies on Incentive Schemes in Primary Schools and their Contribution to Girls Participation, also covered the Mid-day Meal Scheme in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. The report states that the Noon-meal scheme of Tamil Nadu and supply of foodgrains under Mid-day Meal Scheme in Uttar Pradesh have helped improve the enrolment and retention of girls in schools.